

IN THE CLAIMS:

A complete listing of the Claims is set forth below. Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An electronic commerce system applying dynamic database redirection, the system comprising:

one or more seller databases including product data for one or more products;

a seller selection interface operable to receive one or more seller requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer;

a global content directory server associated with the seller selection interface, the global content directory server operable to generate one or more custom global content directories based on the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer;

one or more custom global content directories each including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements received from the buyer and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, at least one of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer; and

a search interface associated with the one or more custom global content directories, the search interface operable to communicate a search query to the seller databases to search the product data stored in the seller databases identified by one of the pointers.

2. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 1, further operable to:
receive one or more product requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer; and
generate one or more custom global content directories based on the product ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 2, further operable to:
determine a geographic location for the ~~user~~ buyer and one or more languages
that correspond to the geographic location of the ~~user~~; buyer; and

generate custom global content directories where the pointers identify seller
databases in the languages corresponding to the geographic location of the ~~user~~; buyer.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 1, wherein one or more of the
pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the
product data is associated with sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements
received from the buyer.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the search query
comprises desired values, specified by the ~~user~~; buyer, for one or more of the product
attributes associated with the selected product class.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the search
interface is further operable to:

receive search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to
the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more
products satisfying the search query and from sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~;
requirements received from the buyer; and

communicate the search results to the ~~user~~; buyer.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The system of Claim 6, wherein the one or more custom global content directories are further operable to:

receive a selection from the ~~user~~ buyer of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and

communicate address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the ~~user~~ buyer to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database who satisfy the seller requirements received from the buyer to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 1, wherein the one or more custom global content directories comprise one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The system of Claim 8, wherein the seller selection interface is further operable to receive an access code from the buyer, the access code operable to allow the buyer to search the product data associated with the private global content directories.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A method for dynamic database redirection in an electronic commerce transaction, the method comprising:

receiving one or more seller requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer;

creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller ~~requirements~~, requirements received from the buyer, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements received from the buyer and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer;

receiving a selection of a product class from the ~~user~~, buyer, the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases;

in response to the selection of the product class by the ~~user~~, buyer, communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is for sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

12. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, further comprising:

receiving one or more product requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer; and

generating one or more custom global content directories based on the product ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

13. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein creating the custom global content directory comprises associating the product classes with product data for one or more sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

14. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, further comprising providing multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the ~~user;~~ buyer.

15. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 14, wherein providing multi-language support comprises:

determining a geographic location for the ~~user;~~ buyer;

determining one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the ~~user;~~ buyer; and

creating the custom global content directory using the seller requirements received from the buyer and the one or more languages corresponding to the geographic location of the ~~user;~~ buyer.

16. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein communicating a search query to the seller databases comprises communicating the search query to the seller databases associated with the sellers that satisfy the seller ~~requirements;~~ requirements received from the buyer.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, further comprising:
receiving search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query from the sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements;~~ requirements received from the buyer; and

communicating the search results to the ~~user;~~ buyer.

18. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 17, further comprising:
receiving a selection from the ~~user~~ buyer of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and

communicating address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the ~~user~~ buyer to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product.

19. **(Currently Amended)** The method of Claim 10, wherein creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements received from the buyer comprises creating one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory.

20. **(Previously Presented)** The method of Claim 19, further comprising receiving an access code from the buyer, the access code operable to allow the buyer to access a private global content directory.

21. **(Currently Amended)** Software for dynamic database redirection in an electronic commerce transaction, the software embodied in a computer-readable medium and operable to:

receive one or more seller requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer;

create one or more custom global content directories based on the seller ~~requirements~~, requirements received from the buyer, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements received from the buyer and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer;

receive a selection of a product class from the ~~user~~, buyer, the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases;

in response to the selection of the product class by the ~~user~~, buyer, communicate a search query to the seller databases to search the product data.

22. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, wherein one or more of the pointers identify particular product data in one or more of the seller databases where the product data is for sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

23. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, further operable to:
receive one or more product requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer; and
generate one or more custom global content directories based on the product ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

24. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, wherein creating the custom global content directory comprises associating the product classes with product data for one or more sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

25. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, further operable to provide multi-language support based upon the geographic location of the ~~user~~; buyer.

26. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 25, wherein providing multi-language support comprises:

determining a geographic location for the ~~user~~; buyer;

determining one or more languages that correspond to the geographic location of the ~~user~~; buyer; and

creating the custom global content directory using the seller requirements received from the buyer and the one or more languages corresponding to the geographic location of the ~~user~~; buyer.

27. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, wherein communicating a search query to the seller databases comprises communicating the search query to the seller databases associated with the sellers that satisfy the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer.

28. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, further operable to:
receive search results from one or more of the seller databases in response to the search query, the search results including product data associated with one or more products satisfying the search query from the sellers satisfying the seller ~~requirements~~; requirements received from the buyer; and

communicate the search results to the ~~user~~; buyer.

29. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 28, further operable to:
receive a selection from the user buyer of a product for which product data is included in the search results; and

communicate address information associated with a seller database that includes product data for the selected product, the address information enabling the user buyer to communicate with a seller associated with the seller database to conduct a commerce transaction relating to the selected product.

30. **(Currently Amended)** The software of Claim 21, wherein creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements received from the buyer comprises creating one or more private global content directories containing product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify product data only available to one or more buyers associated with the private global content directory.

31. **(Previously Presented)** The software of Claim 30, further operable to receive an access code from the buyer, the access code operable to allow the buyer to access a private global content directory.

32. **(Currently Amended)** A system for dynamic database redirection in an electronic commerce transaction, the method comprising:

means for receiving one or more seller requirements from a ~~user~~; buyer;

means for creating one or more custom global content directories based on the seller requirements, requirements received from the buyer, the custom global content directory comprising a directory structure including a plurality of product classes organized in a hierarchy, each product class categorizing a plurality of products from one or more sellers satisfying the seller requirements received from the buyer and each product class associated with one or more attributes of the products categorized in the product class, one or more of the product classes having one or more associated pointers that identify a one or more seller databases associated with sellers satisfying the seller requirements; requirements received from the buyer;

means for receiving a selection of a product class from the ~~user~~, buyer, the product class having a pointer identifying one or more of the seller databases;

in response to the selection of the product class by the ~~user~~, buyer, means for communicating a search query to the seller databases to search the product data.